

## UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTS NEEDED Autumn 2022

The School of Communication both welcomes and encourages undergraduate student involvement in the research programs of faculty and graduate students by serving as undergraduate research assistants. Research assistants play a vital role in the research of any university, by helping with data collection and analysis, computer programming, library research, and writing of research reports for presentation and conferences and for publication. Undergraduates in the social sciences with research experience (especially in the form of an undergraduate thesis) and who meet other entry requirements are often highly sought out by graduate schools, including the graduate program in the School of Communication at The Ohio State University. Furthermore, people with research skills are also sought out in industry and the corporate world. Thus, serving as a research assistant can give you a competitive advantage in your quest for furthering your education in the social sciences or obtaining employment upon graduation. If you need a letter of recommendation from a faculty member for graduate school or a job, you will get a much stronger letter if you work in a faculty member's research group. Because there is no such thing as too much experience, we especially encourage students to get involved early in their education, *at least* a year before graduation. It sounds a lot better for a faculty member to say that that you worked in their lab for two, three, or even four years than only a semester.

The School of Communication is currently recruiting undergraduate research assistants for ongoing research projects described below. You may earn 'independent study' course credit by working on these projects or get involved on a voluntary basis—details are to be discussed with the faculty/project contacts. **If you see a project description that interests you, please contact the faculty member directly (unless otherwise indicated in project description).** Most projects fill on a first-come basis until full.

The application deadline for all positions is  
August 26, 2022.

## Autumn 2022 School of Communication Projects

Project title: (Mis)information about COVID-19 vaccination on Twitter

Faculty supervisor: Dr. Robert Bond

Contact information: Yue Li

Email: li.7232@osu.edu

Total number of research assistants sought: 5

Project location: online

*Minimum commitment per week: 9 hours of work per week for each RA*

Preferred qualifications:

- (1) Native English speakers are preferred because RAs need to read the tweets.
- (2) Good candidates need to be detail oriented and patient.
- (3) Good candidates are expected to submit weekly assignments on time with high quality.

Project description: This project aims to examine how (mis)information about COVID-19 vaccination with different message features diffuses on Twitter. To achieve the goal, we need to read the related tweets and label them accordingly. RAs will learn how to transform qualitative text data into quantitative data for further analysis through the process. The skills you will learn through the process is widely used in academic and the media industry.

Remote or in-person: 70% remote 30% in-person

Format of remote interaction: RAs can work remotely except for the weekly meetings after the training phase. In-person training in the first few weeks is required.

Stable on-going Internet access required? Yes, at least have access to Zoom meetings and can check emails regularly.

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Project title: A source-network analysis of US politico-cultural news coverage

Faculty supervisor: Robert M. Bond

Contact information: Ralph J. Martins

Email: martins.37@osu.edu

Total number of research assistants sought: ~4-6

Project location: Access to on-campus libraries may be required

*Minimum commitment per week: 3 hours, but can be increased based on RA interest and availability*

Preferred qualifications: Students who have successfully completed a basic course in journalism, such as COMM 2221, will be preferred

Project description: The presentation of sources in the news is critical to the framing of issues therein. Sources are often presented as being “in conversation” with one another, whether out of a desire to “balance” opposing views, to compare and contrast positions or perspectives, to reinforce one or another set of the same, or to “set up” one set of sources for challenge or contestation by another. This project will investigate patterns in the co-presentation of sources.

Remote or in-person: Some in-person meetings \*may\* be required

Format of remote interaction: Zoom

Stable on-going Internet access required? Yes

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Project title: Transcribing parent-child science interactions

Faculty supervisor: Dr. James Alex Bonus

Contact information: jamesalexbonus@gmail.com

Email: jamesalexbonus@gmail.com

Total number of research assistants sought: 2-3

Project location: Remote/online

*Minimum commitment per week: 3-4 hours*

Preferred qualifications: None

Project description: This past summer, my lab conducted an experimental study that examined the types of conversations that parents and children had while completing a science activity. We audio recorded these conversations, and we now need assistance with transcribing the recordings (i.e., translating each recording into a Word document). RAs will be responsible for transcribing a pre-determined amount of audio recordings each week. This work can be completed remotely on your own schedule.

Remote or in-person: Remote

Format of remote interaction: Zoom

Stable on-going Internet access required? Yes

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Project title: Anger Management Meta-Analysis

Faculty supervisor: Dr. Brad J. Bushman ([bushman.20@osu.edu](mailto:bushman.20@osu.edu))

Contact information: Sophie Kjaervik and Emily Davidson

Email: [kjaervik.1@osu.edu](mailto:kjaervik.1@osu.edu), [davidson.536@osu.edu](mailto:davidson.536@osu.edu)

Total number of research assistants sought: 4

Project location: Remote/online

*Minimum commitment per week: 3 hours*

Preferred qualifications: experience with Excel, organized, close attention to detail, strong reading comprehension

Project description: This project explores anger management techniques that are aimed at decreasing and increasing physiological arousal. The goal of this project is to gather all relevant studies on this topic and include them in a meta-analysis to understand the best approaches to anger management. The term meta-analysis literally means "analysis of analyses." It is a quantitative literature review that combines the

statistical analyses (e.g., correlations) from different studies conducted on the same topic. This opportunity can be taken on a voluntary basis or for credit in Communication (COMM 4998) or Psychology (PSYCH 4998).

Remote or in-person: Remote/online, emails and weekly Teams meetings.

Format of remote interaction: There will be held weekly Teams meetings to go through the information collected and any questions you might have.

Stable on-going Internet access required? Yes.

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Project title: Guns study

Faculty supervisor: Dr. Brad J. Bushman ([bushman.20@osu.edu](mailto:bushman.20@osu.edu))

Contact information: Sophie Kjaervik, and Emily Davidson

Email: [kjaervik.1@osu.edu](mailto:kjaervik.1@osu.edu), [davidson.536@osu.edu](mailto:davidson.536@osu.edu)

Total number of research assistants sought: 2

Project location: Journalism 381

*Minimum commitment per week: 6 hours*

Preferred qualifications: We are interviewing for two positions, but candidates may do both roles:

*First position:* Good at interacting with children (8-12 years old). Good at talking with parents. Good at explaining things simply. Good social skills.

*Second position:* Coding and data entry skills. Code video clips of play sessions. This requires Excel and Qualtrics skills and careful attention to details.

Project description: Previous research has shown that children who see movie characters smoke are more likely to smoke themselves, and children who see movie characters drink alcohol are more likely to drink alcohol themselves. This study examines whether children who see movie characters use guns are more likely to use real guns themselves (e.g., touch a gun, hold a gun, pull the trigger on a gun), and whether watching a gun safety video can counteract the effect of violent movie characters.

Remote or in-person: In-person (either with children/parents/researcher in a lab or in the same lab on a computer)

Format of remote interaction: Teams chats and sign-up sheets.

Stable on-going Internet access required? No.

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Project title: Analysis of Media Literacy Education Studies

Faculty supervisor: Dr. HyunYi Cho

Contact information: [cho.919@osu.edu](mailto:cho.919@osu.edu)

Email: [cho.919@osu.edu](mailto:cho.919@osu.edu)

Total number of research assistants sought: 2

Project location: Online

*Minimum commitment per week: 4 hours*

Preferred qualifications: Successful completion of COMM 3160 Communication Research Methods or COMM 3163 Communication Industry Research Methods; Commitment to accuracy and attention to detail

Project description: The RA will analyze published media literacy education studies per the coding scheme and instructions provided by the faculty supervisor.

Remote or in-person: Remote mostly

Format of remote interaction: Zoom

Stable on-going Internet access required? Yes

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Project Title: Virtual Reality and Mental Health Interventions

Supervisor: Dr. Jesse Fox

Contact Information: Ms. Nina Freiberger

Email (link for application is below; do not email to apply): [Freiberger.12@osu.edu](mailto:Freiberger.12@osu.edu)

Total number of Research Assistants sought: 4-6

*Minimum commitment per week: 6+ hrs (2-3 credits)*

Preferred qualifications: Attentive to detail; ability to self-manage, including meeting deadlines and making steady progress on long-term projects without constant supervision; availability for training meetings between 10 AM & 5 PM Eastern time (times to be determined). This is a good fit for students with an interest in mental health interventions or the use of VR and games for prosocial purposes.

Project description: We are seeking research assistants to read and code scientific abstracts and articles about virtual reality and mental health. You may also be asked to locate information about these interventions online. You will learn skills that are excellent preparation for graduate school.

Format of remote interaction: We will have occasional Zoom meetings for training purposes; otherwise you will work on your own. We will maintain contact by email and you will have weekly or bi-weekly due dates for progress on projects.

Stable ongoing internet access required? Yes.

To apply for this position, please fill out the following link: <https://forms.gle/a33NHPLwoFTvCcx26>

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Project Title: Media Personalities

Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Jesse Fox

Contact Information: Dr. Jesse Fox

Email (link for application is below; do not email to apply): fox.775@osu.edu

Total number of Research Assistants sought: 2-4

*Minimum commitment per week: 3 hours (1 credit)*

Preferred qualifications: Attentive to detail; mindful; can meet deadlines; ability to self-manage and make steady progress on long-term projects without constant supervision; availability for meetings between 10 AM & 5 PM Eastern time (times to be determined).

Project description: We are looking for people who stay up-to-date with popular culture (mainstream), subcultures, or fandoms in the U.S., China, or any country. The tasks for this project will include researching the backgrounds of media personalities and fictional characters; identifying online communities and fandoms; and coding related information.

Format of remote interaction: If you have not already, you will need to complete the required online training modules for human subjects researchers (this will be the first assignment). We will have meetings over Zoom as needed. We will maintain contact by email and you will have weekly or bi-weekly due dates for progress on projects.

Stable ongoing internet access required? Yes. Most of the work will be completed online.

To apply for this position, please fill out the following link: <https://forms.gle/a33NHPLwoFTvCcx26>

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### **POSITIONS FILLED (no longer recruiting)**

Project title: Feelings after Playing a Video Game

Faculty supervisor: Dr. Teresa Lynch

Contact information: Please contact via email

Email: [lynch.659@osu.edu](mailto:lynch.659@osu.edu)

Total number of research assistants sought: 4

Project location: Journalism 391 (Chronos Laboratory)

*Minimum commitment per week: 6 hours*

Preferred qualifications: Promptness, attention to detail, comfortable talking to strangers in a professional interaction, experience running research participants through experiment a plus, but not required

Project description: This is a lab study in which RAs greet participants in the lab, answer questions they may have regarding the nature of the study, obtain informed consent, and guide them through a research-

~~protocol in which participants briefly play a video game. Required training is provided and no prior experience with video games is necessary to be an RA for this project.~~

Remote or in-person: In person

Format of remote interaction: None

Stable on-going Internet access required? No